

Our Update:

“Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.”

1 Peter 1:8-9

Oh the marvelous words of Paul to those experiencing the pressures of suffering and hardship. No, we are not suffering because of our faith, but we are suffering in the name of Christ for our faith. Many people, including those who have no faith, are watching how Pat and Karen Phinney respond to some challenging hardships in the past 12 months. There have been too many to count. There was Karen’s serious diagnosis of ovarian cancer on Labor Day 2017. There were major surgeries and many life threatening setbacks. There was a bed bug infection in our home, as the result of traveling while on an extended road trip. There was the \$5,000 identity fraud against one of my banking accounts. There was a major debilitating sprain on my left knee that required serious attention. There were two significant hard drive crashes within 6 months on my computer that left me defenseless. On July 30, I was pulling down a large limb that was broken from a tree and it fell hard on me. This incident tore numerous muscles and ligaments from the rotary cuff in my left shoulder. Surgery is required to repair the damage. On September 2, Karen’s oncology team found on an MRI, a lesion on her liver of which they are very suspicious. A biopsy will be taken soon to determine its nature.



In all of this we remain steadfast in our faith for the Lord Jesus and the sovereign control He has in our lives. Admittedly, it is a season of adversity for us and so we praise Him for the privilege of bearing His name. We rejoice in these continuous opportunities to give Him glory for what He will accomplish through our frail and human bodies. We hold on loosely to all that we have and are, so He will be glorified. We will remain faithful.

Update for Karen? You can pray for her continued recovery from 10 months of continuous chemo because the side effects have been brutal. You can pray for a good and righteous outcome from the lesion that was found on her liver. They tell us more chemo will be necessary, so please ask God to give my dear wife the strength to endure these upcoming treatments. You can pray for the impending surgery that will be needed to repair my left shoulder. Downtime will be significant.

So, what is our current attitude in all this? We agree with the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones before God in Revelation 11:16-17 . . .

“And the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying, “We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign.”

Pat & Karen Phinney